

**Approved on 03.13.2012**  
**Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee (WUDAC)**  
Meeting Minutes for February 14<sup>th</sup> 2012  
2424 Reddie Drive, Wheaton, MD 20902

**Members Present:** Jeannette Feldner (Chair), Marian Fryer, William Moore, Janet Yu, Jim Onder, Linda Amendt, Devala Janardan, Henriot St. Gerard.

**Members Absent:** Matt Barry, Ken Nelson

**Staff Present:** Ana Lopez van Balen, Director, Mid-County Regional Center Sidney Cooper, Marketing & Communications Manager  
Joe Callaway, Clean & Safe Team Manager  
Peter McGinnity, Wheaton Redevelopment Manager

**Guests:** Adam Fogel from Councilmember Navarro's office  
Greg Ossont, Deputy Director, Dept. of General Services  
Sgt. Currie, 4<sup>th</sup> District CBD, Aaron Kraut, Gazette reporter  
Esther French, Patch, B.A. Janardan, Devala's father

**Call to order:** Chair, Jeannette Feldner, 5:03pm

**Motions** Minutes approved with corrections

**Community Concerns**

Marian Fryer said the free produce market is on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. It was suggested that promotional materials reinforce it is a monthly activity.

**Update on Wheaton Library/Recreation Center and Wheaton Redevelopment Program**

Greg Ossont anticipates that funding will be in the FY 18 budget. However, money for the evaluation study should be available in FY15. There will be a County meeting on this matter on March 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm. CIP funding of the Wheaton revitalization and redevelopment program should start FY15. There is concern with one of the Council members concerning the practicality of the platform over the Metro station. The CIP budget process document was distributed.

**Police Report**

Sgt. Currie stated that the CBD is, for the most part, "quiet." There were 6 robberies, several home invasions, 4 aggravated assaults, 1 burglary in Wheaton Plaza, 4 stolen autos, and 3 auto thefts. He related several stories about these events.

**Clean & Safe Team Report**

Joe Callaway reported on the broad range of activities by the Clean and Safe Team as well as his contractors. The 6 clean team staff spend 20% on litter pick-up, 15% on landscape maintenance, 4% on streetscape, 38% on general maintenance and trash, 1% on graffiti removal, 4% maintenance on their own equipment, 6% fixing their equipment, and 3 percent on special events. The safe team of 10 does buddy escorting, jump starts, citizen assists, addresses loitering issues, etc. Contractors collect trash, do rodent removal, mowing, tree service.

**Report from Councilmember Nancy Navarro's office**

Adam Fogel said Nancy Navarro is supportive of the Wheaton redevelopment planning and the CIP funding. Her office is also sponsoring Bill 6-12, which would be implemented within a 2 year window of redevelopment projects in the county.

### **Mid-County Director's Report/Marketing Report**

Ana Van Balen shared that several business owners in Wheaton talked about the need to develop a unifying vision for Wheaton. Hence, she will be working to develop a Wheaton Summit to create that vision and also focus on garnering support for the development of the A&E. Members of Wheaton boards, civic groups and businesses will be asked to assist with this event.

In addition, measures to reduce aggressive towing are working in Wheaton but more is needed to curtail the excessive towing taking place. Joe Callaway, Eric Friedman from the Department of Consumer Protection and Ana have agreed to increase the role that the Clean & Safe Team has on this issue, starting with educating business owners and customers on their towing rights.

### **Subcommittee reports**

Advocacy: Devala Janardan and Henriot St. Gerard reported that their team reviewed the 7/11 convenience store and adjacent path issue. It was not as bad as reported by Robert Abrams in the February WUDAC meeting. The team will let Robert Abrams know about our findings and thank him for calling this to our attention.

In addition, a vote was taken to write letters in support of Wheaton Redevelopment and on panhandling. Lastly, several "big box" bills have been introduced by council. They will discuss these in more detail during their subcommittee meeting.

Communication: Jim Onder discussed the Communication Plan that is being written. It will outline the many facets of communication methods and modalities for both internal and external audiences. The first draft will be ready for the March meeting. William Moore discussed internal WUDAC communication. A template was distributed that would help each subcommittee document their work. Sidney Cooper discussed Taste of Wheaton on May 20<sup>th</sup> and the need to encourage restaurants to participate.

Business Development: Janet Yu reported that meetings are being scheduled.

Overseeing Budget: Joe Callaway reported that all is status quo.

### **Redevelopment Report**

Peter McGinnity discussed the Wheaton Redevelopment Program's efforts to support small businesses in the CBD. This impact assistance program would be for small and emerging businesses before, during, and after Wheaton redevelopment. The program would provide workshops on topics including: technical support, financing (micro loans), filing procedures, business English classes, etc. In addition, a business survey has been prepared to ask business about their needs and wishes. A copy and other redevelopment projects were distributed.

### **Westfield report: None**

### **New Business: None**

**Meeting Adjourned: 6:30 pm.**